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UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Fourth Regional Conference on the
Integration of Women in Development
on the Implementation of the Arusha
Strategies for the Advancement of
Women in Africa

6-10 November 1989
Abuja, the Federal Republic of Nigeria

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Opening Ceremony (Agenda item 1)

The Fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development on the Implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa will be chaired by the out-going President of the Third Regional Conference, Minister from Tanzania and will open on Monday, 18 September 1989 at 10:00 a.m. His Excellency President Ibrahim Babangida, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will open the Conference.

Statements will follow by:

(a) Professor Adebayo Adedeji, United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

(b) Dr. Margaret Anstee, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs

(c) Out-going President of the Third Regional Conference , Minister from Tanzania.

2. Election of Officers (Agenda item 2)

The Conference will elect its new President, five vice-presidents representing the different regions and two rapporteurs.

3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (Agenda item 3)

The proposed provisional agenda which contains 13 items and the draft programme of work with the dates and hours each day for discussion of the items will be presented to the conference for adoption.

4. Implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa beyond the end of the United Nations Decade for Women: Country perspectives (Agenda item 4)

Member States of ECA are expected to give an up-date on the implementation of the Arusha Strategies following the guidelines sent by ECA for the preparation of the report. Country reports should be specific and relevant focussing on issues highlighted by the guidelines which have indicated the priority areas of the Arusha Strategies. Priority areas for the future are expected to be highlighted by the participants.

5. Implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa Beyond the end of the United Nations Decade for Women: Regional Perspective (Agenda item 5)

A regional perspective on the implementation of the Arusha Strategies will be given by ECA. The paper will highlight the sectors that have made progress and consider the impact of the economic crisis on African women. Efforts made by UN agencies to promote the welfare of women will also be given. Recommendations for the future will be proposed in the Abuja Declaration entitled "Participatory Development the Role of Women in Africa in the 1990s. Within the Arusha and Nairobi Strategies the Abuja Declaration will give emphasis to areas that have emerged as crucial to the advancement of women.

6. Strategies for improving women's access to education and training in science and technologies (Agenda item 6)

The ECA paper will review, analyse and assess progress women in Africa have made since the UN Decade for Women in entering into science/technology-based training programmes and into the scientific professions. It will provide policy issues, guidelines and strategies needed for improving women's access to education and training in science and technology.

7. Improving African women's role in informal sector: Employment - Development (Agenda item 7

African economies are characterized by a more or less embryonic informal sector and rapidly changing rural sector. Their convergence in urban and surrounding areas, is the development of an informal socio economic sector, which is difficult to define and in which women play in important role. The involvement of African women in the informal sector is seen as an appropriate solution to the serious problem of women's employment. At a time when national structural adjustment strategies are being developed, it is important to find that how certain socio-economic sectors such as agriculture, industry, commerce and handicrafts can generate informal activities capable of supporting a national self-reliant and self-sustained development strategy including women.

8. Flow of resources to women in the context of the African Food and Debt Crisis (Agenda item 8)

Despite the amount of resources available for African development, the continent still dwells on an unfavourable economic situation. This situation manifests itself on various dimensions: Most notably on the food and debt crisis, wherein women are the most affected.

The purpose of the study is to create understanding of the present situation of resources in view to increasing the ability of women in development machineries to attract additional resources and improve management capabilities on the utilisation of these resources.

9. The situation of displaced women and children under apartheid, drought, desertifications (Agenda item 9)

The effect of apartheid have been felt not only in South Africa and Namibia but also in the front line states and in other countries to which women have been displaced or sought refuge. The Arusha Strategies had recommended a number of steps to be taken at national, regional and multinational levels. The OAU paper will discuss the extent the measures have been implemented and recommend action for the future.

10. Special programme: Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC)

During the Conference, a special programme is planned to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee on the Integratio of Women in Development (ARCC). This committee composed of 15 member States representing all subregions was established by the ECA Conference of Ministers in its resolution 365 in Rabat, Morocco in 1979 to monitor and coordinate activities in the region designed to promote the advancement of women. The list of members are as follows:

Niamey MULPOC

Chairperson	Ghana
Vice-Chairperson	Mauritania
Rapporteur	Benin

Yaounde MULPOC

Chairperson	Guinea Equatorial
Vice-Chairperson	Tchad
Rapporteur	Cameroun

Lusaka MULPOC

Chairperson	Zimbabwe
Vice-Chairperson	Comoros
Rapporteur	Kenya

Tangier MULPOC

Chairperson	Tunisia
Vice-Chairperson	Egypt
Rapporteurs	Morocco

Gisenyi MULPOC

Chairperson	Rwanda
Vice-Chairperson	Zaire
Rapporteur	Burundi

Bureau Members

Chairperson	Ghana
Vice-Chairperson	Tunisia
2nd Vice-Chairperson	Zimbabwe
Rapporteur	Rwanda
2nd Rapporteur	Guinea-Equatorial

11. Any other business

Delegates to the conference may wish to raise some additional issues related to the meeting.

12. Adoption of the report

The Rapporteur of the Conference will present the draft report of the conference for adoption.

13. Closing ceremony of the Conference

A special programme for the closing of the conference will be distributed to conference participants.